

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /148 W

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R 231703Z NOV 73

FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 156

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L JEC PARIS 30143

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VS, PINT

SUBJECT: GVN-PRG BILATERALS: 30TH PLENARY SESSION, NOVEMBER 22,
1973

REF: A) USDEL:JEC 29380

B) SAIGON 19813

1. (SUMMARY.) AT NOV 22 GVN/RG BILATERAL TWO
DELEGATIONS, BOTH HEADED BY DEPUTY CHIEFS, ACCUSED EACH
OTHER OF VIOLATING PARIS AGREEMENT. PRG PUT FORWARD ITS
FIVE POINT PLAN FOR AN EFFECTIVE CEASE-FIRE PREVIOUSLY
INTRODUCED IN TPJMC. NEXT MEETING WILL BE NOV 30.
(END SUMMARY.)

2. GVNDEL NOV 20 ACCEPTED PRG PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING
NOV 2 (REF A). THIS WAS FIRST MEETING SINCE OCT 25.

3. DINH BA THI, ACTING CHIEF OF PRGDEL, OPENED
NOV 22 SESSION BY ACCUSING GVN OF BEING OPPOSED TO
IMPLEMENTATION OF PARIS AGREEMENT AS EXEMPLIFIED BY
SAIGON'S ALLEGED INTERRUPTION OF TALKS IN PARIS AND
CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS IN SVN. THI EMPHASIZED GVN
BOMBING OF PRG-CNTROLLED AREAS AND ALLEGED GVN HAD
TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF RECENT TYPHOONS IN CENTRAL VIET-NAM
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TO REGROUP PEOPLE IN CAMPS AND STEAL THEIR RICE. HE

ALSO CLAIMED GVN'S "WAS POLICY" WAS CAUSING WIDE-SPREAD FAMINE, AND MADE VARIOUS ACCUSATIONS CONCERNING EXECUTION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS. THI ATTACKED GVN FOR ALLEGEDLY SABOTAGING WORK OF TPJMC, NOTABLY BY CANCELLING SAIGON - LOC NINH LIAISON FLIGHT.

4. THI THEN ACCUSED US OF SUPPLYING MASSIVE AND ILLEGAL MILITARY AID TO GVN, OF MAINTAINING IN SVN LARGE NUMBERS OF MILITARY ADVISORS DISGUISED AS CIVILIANS, AND OF CARRYING OUT RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS IN "PRG AIR SPACE." ASSERTING PRG'S RESPECT FOR PARIS AGREEMENT, THI WARNED THAT GVN VIOLATIONS WOULD NOT BE TOLERATED. THI URGED ADOPTION OF PRG'S FIVE-POINT PLAN FOR AN EFFECTIVE CEASE-FIRE. (COMMENT: THIS IS THE SAME PLAN PRG HAS BEEN PUSHING IN TPJMC FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IT HAS BEEN SET FORTH IN PARIS.) FINALLY, THI CALLED ON GVN TO RESUME RELEASE OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL AND TO INSTITUTE DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES.

5. NGUYEN XUAN PHONG FOR GVN FIRST CRITICIZED PRGDEL FOR ITS WALKOUTS AT THE TWO PREVIOUS SESSIONS, ACCUSING PRG OF USING PARIS TALKS FOR PROPAGANDA INSTEAD OF SEEKING A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. PHONG THEN CITED RECENT VC/NVA ATTACKS AGAINST POSITIONS LONG HELD BY ARVN AND THE ROCKET ATTACK ON BIEN HOA. PHONG PROTESTED NVA INFILTRATION OF MEN AND MATERIEL, WHICH SHOWED INTENTION TO LAUNCH A GENERAL OFFENSIVE IN NEAR FUTURE, AND NOTED VC OBSTRUCTION OF WORK OF TPJMC AND OF ICCS. PHONG URGED PRG TO CHANGE ITS ATTITUDE AND ENTER INTO REAL NEGOTIATIONS.

6. AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION IT WAS AGREED TO AGAIN MEET NOV 30.

7. AT HIS USUAL MEETING - DAY PRESS CONFERENCE PRG SPOKESMAN L VAN SAU A) ASSERTED ACHIEVEMENT OF EFFECTIVE CEASEFIRE ALONG LINES OF PRG'S 5 POINTS WAS "ESSENTIAL CONDITION" TO POLITICAL SETTLEMENT; B) CONTRASTED GVN'S ALLEGED ABUSE OF PEOPLE DURING RECENT TYPHOONS WITH PRG'S ALLEGED ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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MONEY AND CADRE; C) REJECTED ACCUSATION PRG PREPARING A GENERAL OFFENSIVE; D) ASSERTED PRG HAD TO RESPOND TO GVN ATTACKS IN ORDER TO PRESERVE PARIS AGREEMENT; E) GAVE FIGURES FROM OFFICIAL US SOURCES ON US MILITARY PRESENCE AND EXPENDITURES IN SEA; F) REPEATED USUAL ACCUSATIONS ABOUT US CIVILIAN ADVISORS; G) ASSERTED STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT THIEU ABOUT NEED TO LAUNCH PREVENTIVE ATTACKS AND TO EXTERMINATE COMMUNISTS WERE

INCONSISTNET WIT CONCILIAGORY WORDS OF GVNDEL IN PARIS;
H) SAID US SHOULD CUT OFF AID TO THIER, ESPECIALLY PETROLEUM,
IF US REALLY WANTED PEACE.

8. REF B REPORTED RETURN OF GVNDEL CHIEF NGUYEN LUU
VIEN TO SAIGON NOV. 14 AND GVN SPOKESMAN'S DENIAL OF RESULTING
SPECULATION THAT VN MIGHT WITHDRAW FROM TALKS. GVNDEL
SOURCE TELLS US VIEN RETURNED TO SAIGON FOR CNSULTATIONS
AND IS EXPECTED TO RETURN HERE ALTHOUGH NO DATE HAS BEEN
FIXED. PRGDEL CHIEF NGUYEN VAN HIEU APPARENTLY DID NOT
ATTEND NOV 22 MEETING BECAUSE OF VIEN'S ABSENCE.
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